

REMARKS

Applicant submits new claim 18-20. Claims 2, 7, 12, and 16 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-15, and 17-20 are now pending in the application. Claims 3 and 14 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant amends claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 15, and 17 for clarification, and submit claims 18-20 to round out the scope of the invention. Applicant refers to Figs. 8-10D, and their corresponding description in the specification for exemplary embodiments of and support for the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 13, 15, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

Applicant amends claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 15, and 17 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 2 rejection.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant amends claim 13 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 101 rejection.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 13, 15, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0129165 to Dingsor et al. Applicant amends claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 15, and 17 in a good faith effort to clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited reference, and respectfully traverses the rejection.

Dingsor et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, fail to disclose or suggest the claimed features of either of a destination address modification device or a communications device that is a modified destination including an address modification database storing a to-be-modified destination/source address and a modified destination/source address.

In other words, Dingsor et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, do not

disclose or suggest,

“[a] first communications device for use in a communications system with a second communications device that is an original destination of data transmitted by a client communications device, a destination address modification device modifying a destination address of communications data transmitted from the client communications device, and the first communications device receiving the communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address modification device, the first communications device comprising:

a receiving unit receiving communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address modification device;

a source address modification database that records a to-be-modified destination address and the modified destination address in association;

a source address modification unit modifying a source address of response data, in response to the communications data, to an original destination address obtained from one of the source address modification database and the destination address modification device; and

a transmitting unit transmitting the response data with the source address modified by the source address modification unit directly from the first communications device to the client communications device without passing the response data through the destination address modification device,” as recited in claim 1; or (emphasis added)

“[a] destination address modification device for use in a communications system with a first communications device that is an original destination of data transmitted by a client communications device, the destination address modification device modifying a destination address of communications data transmitted from the client communications device, and a second communications device receiving the communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address modification device, the destination address modification device comprising:

a destination address modification database that records a to-be-modified destination address and the modified destination address in association;

a receiving unit receiving the communications data from the client communications device;

a destination address modification unit modifying the destination address of the communications data, with reference

to the destination address modification database, to the modified destination address;

a modification information generation unit transmitting an address of the first communications device with the destination address modified, which is an original address of the communications data, to the second communications device that is the modified address, wherein

the response data with a source address modified to the address of the first communications device that is the original destination of the communications data is transmitted directly to the client communications device from the second communications device without passing the response data through the destination address modification device,” as recited in claim 6. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits the claims 1 and 6, together with claims 4-5 and 8-9 dependent therefrom, respectively, are patentable over Dingsor et al. for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 10, 13, 15, and 17 incorporate features that correspond to those of claims 1 and 6 cited above, and are, therefore, together with claim 11 dependent from claim 10, patentable over Dingsor et al. for at least the same reasons.

Correspondingly, Dingsor et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, fail to disclose or suggest the claimed port number features.

In other words, Dingsor et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, do not disclose or suggest,

“[a] first communications device for use in a communications system with a second communications device that is an original destination of data transmitted by a client communications device, a destination address modification device modifying a destination address of communications data transmitted from the client communications device, and the first communications device receiving the communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address modification device, the first communications device comprising:

an obtaining unit obtaining a to-be-modified destination address and modified source address port number or destination address port number that corresponds to a pre-modified source address port number or a pre-modified destination address port number;

a receiving unit receiving communications data with the destination address, source address port number, or destination address port number modified by the destination address modification device;

a response data generating unit, obtaining an inside port number corresponding to the modified source address port number or the modified destination address port number of the communications data in accordance with a port number database in which either the source address port number or the destination address port number and the inside port number are associated, and generating response data including data of the processing result produced by making a communications processing unit determined by the obtained inside port number process the communications data; and

a source address modification unit modifying the source address of the communications data to an address of the first communications device that is the original destination, and also modifying the source address port number or destination address port number to a pre-modified source address port number or a pre-modified destination address port number obtained by the obtaining unit, wherein

the response data with the source address modified to the address of the second communications device that is the original destination is transmitted directly from the first communications device to the client communications device without passing the response data through the destination address modification device,” as recited in claim 18.
(Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits the claim 18 is patentable over Dingsor et al. for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 19-20 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 18 cited above, and is, therefore, patentable over Dingsor et al. for at least the same reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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